

REMARKS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action mailed on August 19, 2008, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 8-12 and 14-36 remain in this application, where claims 7 and 13 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1, 11, 19, 22 and 32 are independent. Applicants reserve the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

By means of the present amendment, claims 1-6, 8-12 and 14-36 have been amended for non-statutory reasons, such as for better form including beginning the dependent claims with 'The' instead of 'A', and deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims. Such amendments to 1-6, 8-12 and 14-26 were not made in order to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings for having reversed usage of A_2 and A_3 and missing a connection symbol in FIG 11. Without agreeing with the position forwarded in the Office Action and in the interest of advancing prosecution, FIGs 11-12 have been amended to change A_2 , A_3 to A_2' , A_3' , and to add a connection symbol in FIG 11 between the A_4 and the drain of T_5 in conformance with the specification, such as page 16, lines 24-25. Further, the specification has been amended for conformance with the changes to FIGs 11-12. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the drawings objection and approval of the enclosed proposed new drawing.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 4 for not ending in a period. In response, claim 4 has been amended to include a period at the end. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 4 is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 32-36 are allowed and that claims 7-9, 11-16, 19 and 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 32-36 are allowed and that claims 7-9, 11-16, 19 and 22 contain patentable subject matter. By

means of the present amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 7 which has been canceled without prejudice. In addition, claims 11, 19, 22 have been rewritten in independent form.

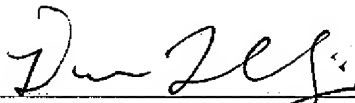
Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1, 11, 19 and 22 be allowed. In addition, it is respectfully requested that claims 2-6, 8-10, 12, 14-18, 20-22 and 23-31 also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 11 as well as their individually patentable elements.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of

Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Dicran Halajian, Reg. 39,703
Attorney for Applicant(s)
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Enclosure: Replacement drawing sheet (1 sheet including
FIGS 11-12)

THORNE & HALAJIAN, LLP
Applied Technology Center
111 West Main Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706
Tel: (631) 665-5139
Fax: (631) 665-5101